OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE (OCS)

OCS 1000 - Seminar in OT Practice
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course is uniquely designed for the traditional freshman student, incorporating concepts learned in UNIV 1010 Enhancing First Year Success, as well as, introduces those interested in the profession as a career to the realm of occupational therapy practice.

OCS 1010 - Introduction to Occupational Science and Therapy
Credit(s): 2 Credits
The purpose of this course is to introduce freshman and sophomore students to the concept of occupation, the academic discipline of Occupational Science (OS), and the health care discipline of Occupational Therapy. Learners are encouraged to be reflective of the evolving process of their personal and professional development and their choice of occupational therapy as a career.

OCS 3120 - The Study of Occupation
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to occupational science. It focuses on the individual meaning of occupation. Patterns of occupation are examined as well as subjective dimensions of occupational experience. Students will learn to describe occupation using more specific terminology, including habits, routines, rituals, identity, motivation and individual time use. Students will also study an occupational science leader and reflect on the evolution of their research and interests related to the study of occupation. OCS 3120, 3220, and 3320 are taken together. There is a 24 hour shared ACSE (Applied community service experience) across these courses.

OCS 3220 - Contexts of Occupation
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is an overview of the temporal, spatial, and socio-cultural contexts of occupation as a basis for design of the therapeutic contexts of intervention. Each dimension will have a focus on ethnic groups in the St. Louis area.

OCS 3320 - Development of Humans as Occupational Beings
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores the development of human occupation across the lifespan from an occupational science perspective. The course begins by outlining the domains of occupational science and occupational therapy to provide a foundation for the semester’s work. We will analyze theoretical approaches to development, learning, and behavior across the lifespan. We will examine occupations across categories of play, leisure, and work, and we will understand the ways in which life transitions influence occupation. We will critically examine the link between occupation and wellbeing, including whether occupations are always “good”, and will end the course by synthesizing our occupational science knowledge.

OCS 3520 - Personal and Community Wellness
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course presents a holistic overview of health and wellness through use of the wellness wheel, personal experiences, reflection, and observation. Students explore their own occupational patterns of motivation, change, goal setting, and asking for/receiving help and reflect on the broader impacts of what they have learned for use in future practice. A comprehensive community wellness project applies personal insights from this experience combined with concepts learned in all other OCS courses, showing an understanding of the application of learned terminology, research, and comprehensive view of the person and context in a local non-healthcare setting.

OCS 3620 - Lived Experience: Disability and Chronic Conditions
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Students will develop an understanding of the experience of living with a disability and chronic illness through study of first person accounts and ethnographies that address how disability and chronic illness disrupts occupational patterns in infancy through aging. This course includes both traumatic and chronic psychiatric, orthopedic, developmental and neurological conditions.

OCS 3720 - Critical Perspectives of Culture, Occupation, & Justice
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course extends the knowledge of humans as occupational beings by introducing concepts of culture, globalization and marginalization. Themes of occupational justice and political occupational therapy run throughout the course as we critically analyze dominant American practices and perspectives, local and global conditions for occupation, and our moral responsibility to understand “others” in a service role.
Attributes: Urban Poverty - Health Care, Urban Poverty - Immigration

OCS 3930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

OCS 3980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

OCS 4620 - Clinical Conditions and Phenomenon
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will address how disability from traumatic or chronic illness disrupts occupational patterns and the role of occupational therapy in returning individuals to quality of life experiences.

OCS 4930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

OCS 4980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Independent project within the Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Department. Course objectives will be identified through student and faculty consultation. Offered every semester.